

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 05788.0200
CUSTOMER NUMBER 22,852

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Inventor: Alberto PIROVANO) Group Art Unit: Not assigned
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned) Examiner: Not assigned
Filed: December 27, 2001)
For: SUBMARINE CABLE BRANCHING)
UNIT WITH CURRENT LIMITER)

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231**

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, after the Title, insert the following new heading and new paragraph:

--CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/259,223, filed January 3, 2001, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, and claims the right to priority based on European Application No. 00128547.7, filed December 27, 2000. --

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REMARKS

The examiner is respectfully requested to consider the above preliminary amendment prior to examination of the application.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:


Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

Dated: December 27, 2001

EFC/FPD/dvz

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